

Amendments to the claims:

This listing of claims replaces all previous versions and listings of claims:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A cannula, comprising:
a proximal portion;
a distal portion which comprises a spiral cut along a longitudinal axis of the cannula wherein the cannula ~~forms~~ is defined from a continuum of material.
2. (Original) The cannula of Claim 1, wherein the spiral cut is taken at about sixty to about eighty degrees from the longitudinal axis of the cannula, and is about 0.001 to about 0.002 inches (about 0.25 to about 0.5 mm) wide.
3. (Currently Amended) The cannula of Claim 1, further comprising a tool on the distal portion that is defined from ~~wherein the cannula and the continuum of material further comprise a grasping portion.~~
4. (Currently Amended) The cannula of Claim 1, ~~wherein the cannula and the continuum further comprise~~ comprising a grasping portion tool and an intermediate portion of the cannula between the ~~grasping portion tool~~ and the distal portion.
5. (Currently Amended) The cannula of Claim 1, ~~wherein the cannula and the continuum further comprise~~ comprising an intermediate portion about 0.5 inches long to about 2 inches (about 13 mm to about 51 mm) long, proximal to the distal portion, having a spiral cut with a pitch less than a pitch of the distal portion.
6. (Original) The cannula of Claim 1, wherein an outer diameter of the cannula is from about 0.022 inches (0.56 mm, 1.7 Fr) to about 0.034 inches (0.86 mm, 2.6 Fr).

7. (Currently Amended) The cannula of Claim 1, further comprising a grasper portion at a distal end of the cannula, the grasper portion ~~forming a~~ being defined from the a continuum of material with the cannula.

8. (Original) The cannula of Claim 1, wherein the spiral cut is selected from the group consisting of a continuous cut and a discontinuous cut.

9. (Currently Amended) The cannula of Claim 1, further comprising a device at a distal end of the cannula for removing material, the device selected from the group consisting of a blade, a slicing-type blade, a slicing-type blade and a separate barbed stylet through a center of the cannula, a helix, and a helical catcher/extractor, wherein the ~~cannula and the device for removing material form a~~ is defined from the continuum of material.

10. (Currently Amended) The cannula of Claim 1, further comprising a laser grasper, ~~the laser grasper comprising~~ including a grasper defined from the continuum of material and cannula forming a continuum, and further and comprising a laser fiber within the cannula.

11. (Currently Amended) The cannula of Claim 1, further comprising a ureteroscope comprising an optical fiber [[,]] and an irrigation system.

12. (Currently Amended) The cannula of Claim 1, further comprising a grasper, wherein the grasper is not a part of the continuum of material.

13. (Original) The cannula of Claim 1, wherein the cannula comprises a material selected from the group consisting of stainless steel, Nitinol, a shape-memory alloy, a polymer, and a polymer composite.

14. (Original) The cannula of Claim 1, further comprising a sheath enclosing at least a portion of the cannula.

15. (Currently Amended) A cannula, comprising:
a proximal portion;

a distal portion which comprises a spiral cut, ~~wherein the spiral cut~~ that is taken at an angle of from about sixty degrees to about eighty degrees from a longitudinal axis of the cannula, wherein the proximal portion and the distal portion ~~comprise~~ are defined from a continuum of metal; and

a first intermediate portion between the proximal portion and the distal portion.

16. (Original) The cannula of Claim 15, wherein the spiral cut is about 0.001 to 0.002 inches wide.

17. (Original) The cannula of Claim 15, wherein the proximal portion is from about 3 feet long to about 5 feet long and a portion with a spiral cut is from about 2 inches long to about 6 inches long (about 7.5 cm to about 15 cm long).

18. (Currently Amended) The cannula of Claim 15, further comprising ~~wherein the cannula and the continuum further comprise~~ a grasping portion defined from the continuum of metal.

19. (Currently Amended) The cannula of Claim 15, further comprising a grasper portion at a distal end of the cannula, ~~the grasper portion forming a~~ and defined from the continuum of metal ~~with the cannula~~.

20. (Currently Amended) The cannula of Claim 15, further comprising a grasper portion at a distal end of the ~~grasper~~ cannula defined from the continuum of metal, ~~the grasper and cannula forming a continuum~~, and further comprising a laser fiber within the cannula.

21. (Currently Amended) The cannula of Claim 15, further comprising a second intermediate portion between ~~a portion with a~~ the spiral cut in the distal portion and ~~the~~ a grasping portion.

22. (Currently Amended) The cannula of Claim 21, wherein the second intermediate portion has material removed in a second spiral cut with a pitch less than a pitch of the spiral cut in the distal portion.

23. (Original) The cannula of Claim 15, further comprising a device for removing material selected from the group consisting of a blade, a slicing-type blade, a slicing-type blade and a separate barbed stylet through a center of the cannula, a helical catcher/extractor, and a helix.

24. (Currently Amended) The cannula of claim 15, further comprising a tool on the distal portion of the cannula ~~grasper~~, wherein the tool ~~grasper~~ is not part of the continuum of metal.

25. (Original) The cannula of Claim 15, wherein the spiral cut is selected from the group consisting of a continuous cut and a discontinuous cut.

26. (Original) The cannula of Claim 15, further comprising a sheath enclosing at least a portion of the cannula.

27. (Currently Amended) A method of extracting an object, the method comprising:

placing a grasper near the object;

grasping the object; and

removing the object, wherein the grasper has been made from a cannula defined from a continuum of material, the cannula having a distal portion which comprises a spiral cut along ~~from~~ a longitudinal axis of the cannula.

28. (Original) The method of Claim 27, wherein the grasper is a laser grasper and further comprising breaking the object into small pieces.

29. (Original) The method of Claim 27, wherein the grasper further comprises an optical device and a irrigation system, and further comprising irrigating and viewing the object.